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By the same bill insurance companies are relieved of the general expenses of maintaining the department of insurance, but examinations which by the Armstrong law must be as frequent as once in three years, are still charged to the companies. Restrictions are also imposed upon the reinsurance of risks, and more careful provision is made with reference to the licensing of agents.

Other life insurance laws enacted at this session relate to surrender values of policies (S. B. 1561; Laws 1909, ch. 595), and to the liquidation of delinquent insurance corporations (S. B. 1454; Laws 1909, ch. 300). The main object of the latter bill is to avoid the wasteful expenditures which attend the ordinary receivership.

WILLIAM H. PRICE.

Labor Legislation—Oklahoma. During the first session of the Oklahoma legislature a fairly comprehensive labor law was passed. Oklahoma had just been admitted to the union, there was much work to be done, much new legislation to be enacted, and the legislature chose to make much of it at least progressive, and some of it even radical. The 1909 legislature attempted to complete, so far as possible, the work already begun, to perfect it, and correct such defects as seemed to exist and in addition to take a few more steps in advance and attempt the new and untried. As a state she has never been cautious or conservative. The amendments added and the new legislation passed with regard to labor proved conclusively that she has not as yet become so.

The labor legislation of 1908 centered around the commissioner of labor, a state board of arbitration and conciliation, and a free employment bureau, and dealt with the subjects of factory inspection, child labor, black listing, combinations, agreements and conspiracy. The new law deals primarily with child labor, the free employment bureaus, the time and frequency of paying employees in certain industries, and the miners' labor lien.

The old child labor law was a mere beginning, hardly sufficient to prevent the worst evils connected with the employment of children. The new law on the other hand is far in advance of the old and ranks well with any of the laws yet enacted either in the north or south. No child under the age of fourteen is to be employed or permitted to work in any factory, workshop, theater, bowling alley, pool hall, steam laundry, or any other occupation injurious to health or morals, or especially hazardous to life or limb. It is made the duty of the commissioner of labor, upon investigation by himself or the agents of his department or upon the complaint of the commissioner of charities or the board of

health, to determine which occupations are injurious to health or morals or especially hazardous to life or limb, and to notify employees in such occupations of his decision. That decision is to be final until such occupation is defined by law as safe. No child under the age of sixteen is to be employed or permitted to work in any of the occupations mentioned above unless he is able to read and write simple English sentences, or shall have attended some school the preceding year during such time as attendance is required by law. No boy under the age of sixteen and no girl under the age of eighteen is to be allowed to work in any of these occupations between the hours of 6 p.m. and 7 a.m.

In the more dangerous occupations the general age limit is raised and no child under the age of sixteen is to be employed or permitted to work at any occupation deemed dangerous. The list of such occupations is given and is rather complete, including the handling of dangerous machinery, the use of poisonous acids, and the handling and storing of powder and other explosives.

Children under sixteen and all women of whatsoever age are denied the right to work underground in any mine or quarry, and no girl under the age of sixteen is allowed to sell any newspaper or magazine on the streets or in out-of-door places in any city.

The hours of labor of all children under sixteen in all occupations with very few exceptions are limited and the time when such labor may be performed is also regulated. No child under the age of sixteen is to be employed in any gainful occupation except agriculture and domestic service for more than eight hours in any one day or more than forty-eight hours in any one week.

Children under the age of fourteen are not allowed to work in certain occupations and in these same occupations children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen are not permitted to work until their parents or guardians have furnished the employers with an age and schooling certificate. This certificate is to be approved by the county superintendent of public instruction or by some other school official designated by him, and is not to be approved unless satisfactory evidence is shown by the last school census, by the register of the city or county, or by an affidavit of the date of birth made by a legally registered physician. The law takes cognizance of the fact that there will always be cases where such information cannot be obtained and in such cases the parent or guardian, or, if neither are living, the child itself may make affidavit stating the age, place and time of birth. This affidavit, however, may be used only when the child appears to be in good health and is of normal size, not

under a required height and not less than a required weight. This certificate is deemed the property of the child and whenever he quits work it must be given to him, to his parent, or to his guardian.

The employer must keep these certificates on file for inspection by the factory inspector, truant officer, or other person charged with the administration of the law. In addition to this the employer must keep on file and post in a conspicuous place two statements, the one a register showing the names and ages of every child employed under the age of sixteen and the other a card in such form as the inspector may prescribe, setting forth the time of opening and closing the factory, the number of hours of labor required, the hours of commencing and stopping work, the time allowed for meals and, if there be two or more shifts, the number of hours in each shift.

The work of the free employment bureau which was established in 1908 was extended by the creation of a new bureau for the eastern part of the state.

The semi-monthly pay-day with payments in lawful money has also been instituted and now every person, firm or corporation in the state engaged in mining coal, ore, or other minerals, or quarrying stone, or in manufacturing iron, steel, lumber, staves, heading for barrels, brick, tile, and tile machinery, agricultural or mechanical implements, or any article of merchandise must pay its employes at least twice a calendar month if they see fit to demand it. This payment must be made in lawful money of the United States and not in script.

The miners' labor lien has also been enacted and all miners or other employees engaged in the work of developing or opening up coal or other mines and in fact doing any work in and about mines are to have as security for the work done a lien upon all property of the person, owner, agent, firm or corporation owning or operating the mine to such an extent as is necessary to satisfy all labor claims in full. This law is to be enforced the same as the mechanics' lien law. ROBERT ARGYLL CAMPBELL.

Liquor. The control of the liquor traffic by legislation continues to occupy the center of the stage. The legislatures of practically every state holding sessions in 1909 struggled with some phase of the problem. The campaign of 1908 in many states was conducted on the issue of local option by counties or other local units and in some upon the issue of state prohibition or of prohibition enforcement.

Local option by counties was the issue which was most prominent. The elections in the states of Idaho, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Nebraska,